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Commission on Population and Development
Forty-seventh session
7-11 April 2014
Item 2 of the provisional agenda*
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Report of the Bureau of the Commission on Population and Development on its intersessional meetings

Addendum

Introduction

1. The present document summarizes the conclusions reached and the recommendations made at the intersessional meetings of the Bureau of the forty-seventh session of the Commission on Population and Development, held at United Nations Headquarters on 26 February 2014, 12 March 2014 and 2 April 2014.

A. Organization of work for the forty-seventh session of the Commission

2. The Bureau reviewed the organization of work for the forty-seventh session. It was decided that the organization of work would be amended to indicate that the two keynote addresses delivered at noon on Monday, 7 April, and at noon on Tuesday, 8 April, would be followed by interactive discussions. It was also decided that the organization of work would be amended to reflect the title of the panel discussion as follows: "ICPD beyond 2014: An unfinished agenda".

3. Considering the need to allow for the effective participation of actors of civil society in the forty-seventh session of the Commission, as called for by the General Assembly in resolution 67/250, on the organization of the special session of the General Assembly on the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014, the Bureau agreed to propose to the Commission to set aside 10 minutes at the end of each meeting in which item 4 would be discussed to listen to statements by representatives of non-governmental organizations.

* E/CN.9/2014/1.

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B. Keynote speakers and panellists

4. In addition to Dr. Nafis Sadik, who will address the Commission on 7 April, the Bureau invited Mr. David Lam, Professor in the Department of Economics and Research Professor in the Population Studies Center at the University of Michigan, to speak on 8 April on the theme "Population and sustainable development in the context of the post-2015 development agenda".

5. The Bureau also agreed that a panel discussion, to be held on Wednesday, 9 April, from noon to 1 p.m., would feature the following panellists: Ms. Carmen Barroso, Regional Director of the International Planned Parenthood Federation, Western Hemisphere Region, Brazil; Ms. Oluwafunmilola (Lola) Dare, Chief Executive Officer of the Centre for Health Sciences Training, Research and Development, Nigeria; and Mr. Gamal Serour, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Director of the International Islamic Centre for Population Studies and Research, Al Azhar University, Egypt.

C. Resolutions and decisions

6. In view of the new provisions regarding the annual themes of the Economic and Social Council, as set out in General Assembly resolution 68/1, the Bureau recommended that the Commission postpone, until its forty-eighth session, to be held in 2015, the selection of the theme for its forty-ninth session, to be held in 2016.

7. The Bureau also debated whether to recommend that the Commission adopt a resolution on the special theme of the forty-seventh session, namely, "Assessment of the status of implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development".

8. After careful consideration of the views expressed by Bureau members, and given that most members, representing the views of their regional groups, favoured a negotiated outcome of the Commission, the Chair decided to put forward a draft resolution.

D. Participation of non-governmental organizations

9. The Bureau considered paragraph 10 of resolution 67/250, in which the General Assembly stressed the need for the effective participation, as appropriate, of actors of civil society, particularly non-governmental organizations, in the forty-seventh session of the Commission, taking into account the practice and experience gained at the International Conference on Population and Development.

10. In accordance with the annex to Council resolution 1993/4, non-governmental organizations not in consultative status with the Council could apply to the secretariat of the Conference. The secretariat was responsible for the receipt and preliminary evaluation, in accordance with the provisions of the resolution, of requests from non-governmental organizations for accreditation to the Conference and its preparatory process. Further details on the process were laid out in the annex.

11. The Bureau requested the Secretariat to establish a procedure to allow non-governmental organizations not in consultative status with the Council to apply for accreditation to the forty-seventh session of the Commission. A list of

non-governmental organizations not in consultative status (see E/CN.9/2014/6), that had been pre-screened by the Secretariat, on the basis of the criteria contained in the annex to Council resolution 1993/4, will be presented to the Commission for approval in the morning of 7 April.

E. Adoption of PaperSmart services

12. In line with the objectives of the Secretary-General to increase efficiency, reduce the carbon footprint of the Organization and increase the provision of e-services to Member States, the Bureau decided to adopt the PaperSmart model used by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management for handling the documentation associated with the forty-seventh session of the Commission.